

Follow-up to the Hunter Support Evaluation

The 2015 community agreement with each of the northern villages for the Hunt Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Support Program was approved by the KRC Council. In particular, funding for local administration will be increased to \$175,000. The level of this funding was \$100,000 in 2015 and \$85,000 in 2016. For its part, core funding for community hunter support programs will be reduced.

The increased funding for local administration represents follow-up to one of the recommendations contained in the Support Program evaluation completed last September. Other follow-up planned over the coming year by the KRC Renewable Resources, Environment, Lands and Parks Department will include:

- Develop a standard job description for local hunter support program (HSP) coordinators and guidelines for the management of HSPs;
- Deliver training to northern village councils and HSP coordinators on the Support Program and their respective responsibilities;
- Analyze and recommend how Support Program funding should be applied for search and rescue activities;
- Develop long-term recommendations for the Hunt Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Support Program based on the September 2015 evaluation.

Funding for the Support Program is paid by the Quebec government pursuant to Section 29 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement.



The objective of the Hunt Hunting, Fishing and Trapping Support Program has always been to foster wildlife harvesting activities as a way of life and ensure a supply of country food to the communities.

JBNQA Housing Agreement



Social housing construction in recent years, while significant, has not reduced the region's severe housing shortage.

Since October, the new federal government in Ottawa is expressing a willingness to resume the negotiation of a long-term JBNQA housing agreement. Difficult negotiations have been ongoing for two years and were suspended for a few months during the fall federal election campaign. Regional issues through these negotiations continue to include significant increased funding to end Nunavut's long-standing housing crisis.

The Agreement respecting the Implementation of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement on Housing in Nunavut was first signed for the years 2000 to 2005, and renegotiated and signed for the periods 2005-2010 and 2010-2015. In 2015-2016, the agreement was extended for one year. Most recently, the KRC Executive Committee has been mandated to finalize another one-year extension to the agreement with the governments of Canada and Quebec, the Kativik Corporation and the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau in order to permit some social housing construction to continue next summer while negotiation of a long-term agreement continues.

2016 Housing Construction

In its November sitting, the KRC Council approved additional social housing construction allocations (60 units) with funding pending under another one-year extension of the JBNQA housing agreement. A total of 120 two-bedroom units are now slated to be built in 2016.

Social housing construction with Plan Nord funding beginning next summer was approved by the KRC Council in May 2015. This funding was reallocated by the Quebec government from unused moneys originally intended for private and cooperative housing. Sixty social housing units and 60 elders units are planned. Elders housing allocations remain to be determined and construction is not expected to take place before 2017.

Community	Funding Source		Total 2016 Allocations (2 bedrooms)
	Plan Nord	JBNQA Housing	
Ungavik	6	6	6
Kangasajung	16	16	28
Kuujujuaq	12	12	24
Salluit	16	16	32
Ussuqjaq	6	6	6
Umiujuaq	10	10	20
Total	60	60	120

Regional Trials Held for Team Nunavik-Québec

Regional trials were organized in late November for over 100 athletes competing for a coveted spot on Team Nunavik-Québec (TNQ) for the Arctic Winter Games scheduled for March 2016 in Nuuk, Greenland. The promising results of these trials and the enthusiasm of all the youth participants are contributing to growing excitement for the upcoming Games.

Competitions took place over two days in six disciplines: Arctic Sports, Dene Games, Snowshoeing, Cross Country Skiing, Badminton and Table Tennis. The event would not have been possible without the generous support of the Northern Village of Kuujuaq, Air Inuit, many committed volunteers in the community, as well as coaches and chaperones. Over the two-year preparation cycle for the Arctic Winter Games, TNQ focus has been on positive values, behaviour and attitude, as well as leadership qualities and performance.



The regional trials held in Kuujuaq in November were the third and final round of competitions before the selection of the TNQ final roster.

Training to Be Their Best

The KRG Recreation Department has been implementing since October an intensive snowshoe and cross country ski training program for youth athletes in Salluit, Kuujuaq and Kangiqsuaq. Twenty-six youth are participating. Expert race coaches based in each of the communities are providing a structured endurance and skills development regime to help the athletes reach their full potential.



The KRG Recreation Department is responsible for coordinating the preparations of TNQ and for TNQ's participation at the Arctic Winter Games. Generous sponsorship (in-kind and financial) for Team Nunavik-Québec 2016 has been provided by Monty Sylvestre, Roche, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton, Glencore Raglan Mine, the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, Canadian Royalties, First Air, the Québec Ministère de l'Éducation, du Loisir et du Sport (education, recreation and sport), Hydro Québec, the Pivallianiq Program, KPMG, and all the northern villages. Letters informing athletes if they had been selected to be part of Team Nunavik-Québec were transmitted in mid-December.



Years of Service with the KRG

The names of all staff who, in 2015, reached important milestones in their careers with the KRG were read at the November sitting of the KRG Council. The Years of Service Awards Program has been launched to recognize staff on their 5th, 10th, 20th and then 30th anniversaries of consecutive employment. Recipients receive a certificate and a gift. On special note, Rebecca Gordon, Ina Gordon, Solange Loiselle, Mark Uqiluaq and Adel Yassa, were all recognized in 2015 for 30 or more years of service to the KRG.

Staff Retention Efforts

Over the last few years, the KRG has taken important strides to focus on employee retention and promote the organization as a good place to build a career. Initiatives include the Years of Service Awards Program, Pisituk, KRG open houses in the communities, employee and family assistance and intercultural workshops. The new succession management plan is also expanding expertise among select Inuit management employees so they may become qualified to fill key positions within the organization in the future. The KRG has 10 departments and over 100 employees. A little less than half of the KRG's total workforce is based in communities other than Kuujuaq, where the KRG head office is located.

So That You Can Stand

In mid-November, the Makivik Corporation marked the 40th anniversary of the signing of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* (JBNQA) by releasing the video documentary *So That You Can Stand: The Story of Young Inuit who Fought to Create a Modern Nunavik*. Makivik also organized a special day of dialogue between Inuit signatories and the region's youth (three participants from each community).

The KRG is proud to have provided meaningful financial support for these activities. A total of \$290,000 was contributed towards the documentary production and \$80,000 towards the signatory-youth dialogue activity. Screenings of the documentary were organized in all the communities by the Makivik Corporation and for KRG employees at the organization's head office in Kuujuaq by Isabelle Parizeau, the KRG Director General. Copies of the documentary have also been sent to all KRG employees and their families.

Over the past decades, the JBNQA has been at the heart of development in Nunavik. Through the JBNQA, Nunavik Inuit have treaty rights protected under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* to wildlife harvesting, lands, natural resources, governance structures, education, health and justice, among others. The JBNQA entrenches regional involvement in decision-making and the delivery of many public services. Since 1975, all of the regional organizations created under the JBNQA have achieved considerable success developing essential services and infrastructure for the region's communities.

Nunavik's New Youth Forum

Since nine new directors were appointed in late August and a first board meeting was organized in mid-September, the Nunavik Youth Forum has been reaching out to community youth committees and municipal elected representatives. Currently, the new Forum is focused on participating with the Québec government in work to renew the province's youth policy. The Forum's directors want to make sure that the realities of the region's youth are incorporated into the renewed policy and that funding to implement actions is made available.

The activities of the new Nunavik Youth Forum are delivered with the support of the Makivik Corporation and can be followed on Facebook at Nunavik Youth Forum. Alicia Aragutak is the Forum's president.



A presentation on the activities of the new Nunavik Youth Forum was delivered by Louisa Teates, the Forum's vice-president, to the KRG Council on November 25.

Building a Strong Construction Workforce

The Sanajit Project and construction sector partners Makivik Corporation and Genivar delivered a presentation to Secondary 4 and 5 students at Jaanimmarik School in Kuujuaq at the end of November. The presentation described employment opportunities in construction trades in Nunavik. The goal of the KRG Sanajit Project is to develop a strong and autonomous regional construction workforce.



Prix Hommage Aînés

Louisa Cookie-Brown (centre) was presented a Prix Hommage Aînés by the Minister responsible for Seniors, Francine Charbonneau, on November 4 at an awards ceremony in Quebec City. The award acknowledges the Kuujuaq resident's outstanding volunteer work to foster dialogue among elders so they can express their values, talk about their past and reflect on their desire to get back to their family roots. A total of 18 recipients from across Québec received the award this year. The Nunavik Elders' Committee recommended Ms. Brown for the award.



KRG Council Holds First Regular Sitting

The elected municipal representatives who make up the new KRG Council met in Kuujuaq from November 23 to 26. This was the first sitting of the KRG Council since municipal elections held in early November.

The new regional councillors chose from among their members an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is responsible for the management of the affairs of the KRG. The appointees are:

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| • Jennifer Munick | Chairperson |
| • Lucy Kumarluk | Vice-Chairperson |
| • Eli Aullaluk | Akulivik |
| • Mary A. Pilurttut | Kangiqsujuaq |
| • Muncy Novalinga | Puvirnituq |

The other representatives on the KRG Council are:

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| • Hilda Snowball | Kangiqsualujuaq |
| • Tunu Napartuk | Kuujuaq |
| • Elena Berthe | Tasiujaq |
| • George Eetook | Aupaluk |
| • Noah Eetook | Kangirsuk |
| • Tommy Annatok | Quaqtaq |
| • Paulusie Saviadjuk | Salluit |
| • Tivi Iyaituk | Ivuivik |
| • Sarollie Weetaluktuk | Inukjuak |
| • Louisa Tookalook | Umiujaq |
| • Parsa Kitishimik | Kuujuarapik |
| • Noah Swappie | Kawawachikamach |

Each of the 14 northern villages of the Kativik Region appoints a representative from among its municipal council to sit on the KRG Council. The chief of the Naskapi village of Kawawachikamach is *ex officio* a member of the Council. The *Act respecting Northern Villages and the Kativik Regional Government* requires the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson to devote all their time to the service of the KRG. Municipal representatives in Nunavik are elected for three-year terms.

Appointments

The KRG Council has the responsibility to appoint representatives to sit on various other regional organizations. At the KRG Council's November sitting, councillor representatives were appointed to three organizations: Mary A. Pilurttut to the council of commissioners and the executive committee of the Kativik School Board, Parsa Kitishimik to the board of directors of the Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, and Noah Eetook and Sarollie Weetaluktuk to the board of directors of the Makitautik Inuit Community Residential Centre. A few other appointments are scheduled to be made at the KRG Council's February sitting.



The November sitting of the KRG Council permitted new councillors to become better acquainted with the organization's departments in Kuujuaq. Visits were conducted with some departments and others will be completed in February.



Proceedings of the regular sittings of the KRG Council are broadcast live in all the communities on Taqramiut Nipingat Inc.



2016 KRG Council Sittings

The regular quarterly sittings of the KRG Council for 2016 are scheduled for February 22 to 25, May 30 to June 2, September 12 to 15, and November 28 to December 1. Every year all Council sittings are organized in Kuujuaq, except the May-June sitting. KRG councillors will select the location of their May-June sitting in February.